

Amendments to the Specification:

Amend page 2, line 36 to page 3, line 4 as follows.

In this context, ~~propagation~~ extent is to be understood as the length of a window projected onto a straight line, the straight line running in a principal extending plane of the mask material layer. The average ~~propagation~~ extent is accordingly the ~~propagation~~ extent of a window averaged over all directions.